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Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 DRC-01 /107 W
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R 220500Z JUL 74
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4971
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4730

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS
SUBJECT: YUN PO-SUN EMERGENCY COURT MARTIAL TRIAL

REF A SEOUL 3949 B SEOUL 4582 C SEOUL 4656

1. OPENING SESSION OF LATEST COURT MARTIAL TRIAL ON JULY 16 DEALT WITH INTERROGATION OF EX-PRESIDENT YUN AND REV. PARK HYONG-KYU, WITH BOTH FREELY ADMITTING HAVING FINANCED STUDENT PROTEST ACTIVITIES. SECOND SESSION ON JULY 18 EXAMINED CO-DEFENDANTS PROF. KIM DONG-KIL AND DEAN KIM CHAN-KUK OF YONSEI UNIVERSITY. WHEREAS FIRST TWO DEFENDANTS ARE CHARGED WITH HAVING GIVEN MORAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO STUDENT GROUPS, SECOND TWO ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING DIRECTLY GUIDED AND ADVISED STUDENTS. IN SECOND CASE BOTH ADMITTED HAVING ENCOURAGED STUDENTS TO PROTEST AGAINST ROKG POLICIES, BUT DENIED HAVING PROMOTED FORMAL ORGANIZATIONS OR HAVING BEEN COMMUNIST INSPIRED.

2. ACCORDING TO CHO CHANG-HO, EX-NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMAN AND PERSONAL SECRETARY TO MR YUN, VERDICT ON EX-PRESIDENT AND REV. PARK EXPECTED SOON SINCE BOTH HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFESSED. ALTHOUGH SEVERE SENTENCES ARE EXPECTED,

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MR. CHO SPECULATED THAT IN THE CASE OF MR YUN IT MAY BE REDUCED OR COMMUTED BY PRESIDENT PARK ON AUGUST 15 IN VIEW OF HIS AGE AND STATUS AS EX-PRESIDENT. HE ALSO BELIEVED THAT SENTENCES OF OTHER DEFENDANTS MAY BE SIMILARLY REDUCED ON THAT OCCASION, BUT CLAIMED NO PROOF OR AUTHORITY FOR HIS SPECULATIONS.

3. ALTHOUGH CHO IS FORBIDDEN TO ATTEND THE TRIAL OR CONTACT YUN, WHO IS NOW UNDER HOUSE ARREST, HE GETS DETAILED REPORTS ON TRIAL PROCEDURES. DURING SECOND SESSION THE PRESIDING JUDGE REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED TO DEFENDANTS THAT BISHOP CHI HAK-SON HAD BEEN INDITTED, BUT THAT HE WOULD BE TRIED SEPARATELY FROM THE OTHER FOUR DEFENDANTS.

4. CHO FURTHER TOLD EMBOFF THAT CONTRARY TO YUN'S STATEMENT IN COURT YUN HAD NOT PASSED MONEY DIRECTLY TO REV. PARK, BUT THAT HIS WIFE HAD GIVEN IT TO MISS YI YU-CHONG (REFTEL 3949). MISS YI IN TURN, PASSED IT TO REV. PARK. NEVERTHELESS, YUN CLEARLY KNEW PURPOSE AND DESTINATION FOR MONEY BUT WISHED TO AVOID IMPLICATING THE TWO WOMEN.

5. ACCORDING TO NCCC-K SOURCE, BOTH MS, KIM OK-KIL, PRESIDENT OF EHWA UNIVERSITY AND BROTHER OF KIM DONG-KIL, AND WIFE OF REV. KIM CHAN-KUK WERE ADVISED MONDAY, JULY 15 THAT TRIAL HAD BEEN CANCELLED AND THEREFORE NOT TO COME TO COURT THE FOLLOWING DAY. CONSEQUENTLY MS. KIM LEFT FOR EUROPE BELIEVING TRIAL POSTPONED.
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